

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged Applicant's election and such acknowledgement is appreciated. Applicant has cancelled non-elected claims 2, 8-10, 19, 21, 23 and 27.

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5-7, 11-13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims as shown and believes that they are now in good form.

On pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5-7, 11-18, 20, 22, 24-26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takayama et al. (GB 2,228,188). In view of the claims as now presented and for the reasons discussed below, Applicant believes that the claims are not anticipated by Takayama et al. and should be allowed.

Takayama et al. discloses a support 10 for a windscreen wiper drive and transmission mechanism comprising wiper motor 12, reduction unit 14, linkage 20, and wiper arm drive shafts 16, 17 is provided with legs 26, 27 having grommets 30, 31 with holes 28, 29 for mounting on pins on the vehicle body and also with portions 36, 37 having holes 38, 39 for securing to the vehicle body. In modifications, a U-shaped grommet having a keyhole slot along one side may be used instead of an annular grommet. The mounting pin on the vehicle body may have a threaded end onto which a unit may be fastened.

Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to Figs. 3 and 4 of Takayama et al. which illustrate that the crank 22 of the driver-side is on the outward side of the wiper bearing (particularly as viewed in Fig. 4). In contrast, Applicant's independent claims 1, 14 and 22 clearly recite and have been further amended to focus on the feature that the driver-side crank in each position during its movement is oriented in a direction towards a vehicle center and between a first wiper bearing and a second wiper bearing, wherein the first wiper bearing is associated with a first wiper and a second wiper bearing is associated with a second wiper. This feature is the opposite of what is shown and taught in the Takayama et al.

Applicant has found that this claimed feature is important because it allows or facilitates the driver side wiper bearing being positioned closer to the A-pillar than otherwise would be possible.

For all the foregoing reasons and in view of independent claims 1, 14 and 22 as now presented, Applicant believes that these claims are not anticipated by Takayama et al.

Claims 3, 5-7, 11-13, 15-18, 20, 24-26 and 28 depend either directly or indirectly from the independent claims mentioned above and accordingly contain limitations in addition to the limitations of the independent claims. Accordingly, Applicant believes that these claims are also not anticipated by the Takayama et al. reference and should be allowed.

Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a one month extension of time.

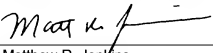
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1287. Applicant hereby provides a general request for any extension of time which may be required at any time during the prosecution of the application. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any fees which have not been previously paid for by check and which are required during the prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 50-1287.

Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned via telephone with any questions or comments regarding this case.

APPLICANT RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS AN INTERVIEW WITH THE EXAMINER IF THIS AMENDMENT DOES NOT PLACE THIS CASE IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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